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October 2015 Edition

From the President

Well we are coming up to that time of the year when you should make sure your antennas are up and secure. I recently had to replace mine after the big wind storms in the spring brought them down. Fortunately I had a portable vertical to help keep me semi active on HF during that time. But it is now contest season so for those of you so inclined, ARRL Sweepstakes and CQ WW DX contests are in November with many others throughout the fall and winter.

For those of you that don't care as much about contesting but like to be at the bench more - and isn't that the majority of us - we are having one of our semi-annual build-a-thons this Saturday (11/7). Many of us will be working on the SDR receiver that Russ Ramirez, K0WFS, designed for us - or the audio filter that he also designed. If you didn't get one of the kits ordered feel free to bring a project you are working on - a lot of expertise will be there to help. And even if you don't have a project to work on, just stop in and see what everyone else is doing and socialize. Rumor is there may be some treats to share if everyone can bring something.

Also, as an early preview to our December 5th meeting I wanted to

mention again that we will be having our annual elections. This year we will be voting on President and Secretary. I will not be running for president this time, but we have a new candidate, Russ, K0WFS, that has agreed to allow his name on the ballot. Steve Ulrich, NW0C, has agreed to run again for Secretary. If you have an interest in either position, please let us know and we can get your name on the ballot as well.

Some of you may recall that Russ is our current VP and still has one year left on his current term. If he becomes our new president we will immediately have a supplemental election for the VP position with a one year term. If you are interested in this VP position, again please let us know. Currently we have one person that has agreed to run, Jeremy Mooney, KC0LDI.

Then, after all of that fun and the rest of the meeting in December, Steve, NW0C, will present how he used a Raspberry Pi at work for networking.

So as you can see, we have some great meetings planned over the next couple of months that you won't want to miss.

I know this is a little early, but I wanted to thank all of you that have helped with the leadership of the club over the past

4+ years. The current administration of Russ, Steve, Paul (N0TYE) and Craig (AA0ZZ) has been a complete joy to work with. Also, previous leadership members, Larry (KB0R), Tom (WM0SS), and Jay (no call) - were a huge help when we rebranded the club from the MNQRP Society. In addition, many others of you were encouraging and helpful with the change as well - W0UFO, W0RU, AJ0O, KC0LDI, K9OSC, and I know there are more that I've forgotten and I apologize for that. I always appreciated the encouragement and support of all of you as we've made this one of the most unique and best clubs in the Twin Cities.

Anyhow, thanks for reading this and I hope to see you this Saturday at the build-a-thon.

73 de chuck ka8hde

October Meeting Minutes

Russ Ramirez, K0WFS, called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM. 22 were in attendance.

Introductions were made all around.

There was no Treasurer report this month.

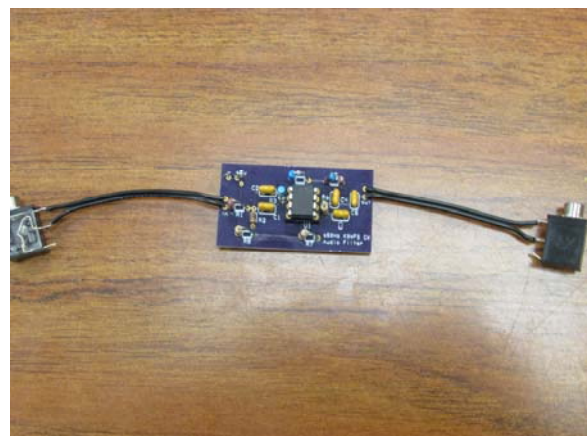
Meeting minutes from September were approved.

Old Business:

- No old business

New Business:

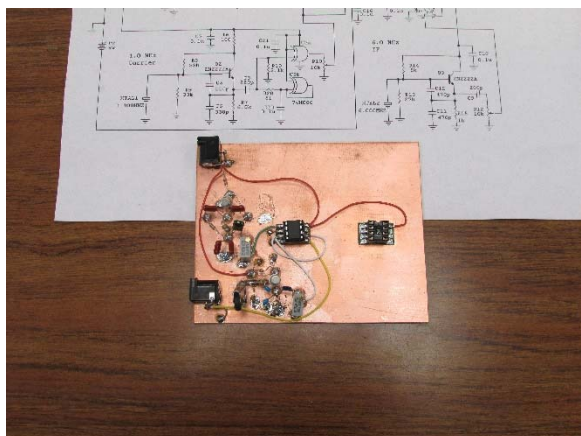
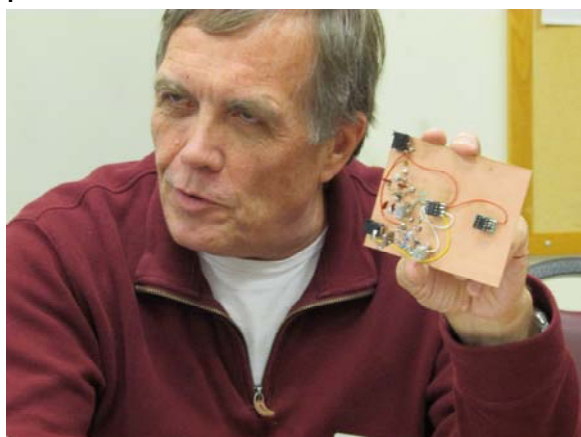
- For the Build-a-thon next month an audio filter centered around 650 Hz for CW will be available for \$5 and an SDR receiver for \$40. Russ, K0WFS, reviewed the specifications of both kits and passed them around for the members to see. Of course you are welcome to bring a project of your own next month.



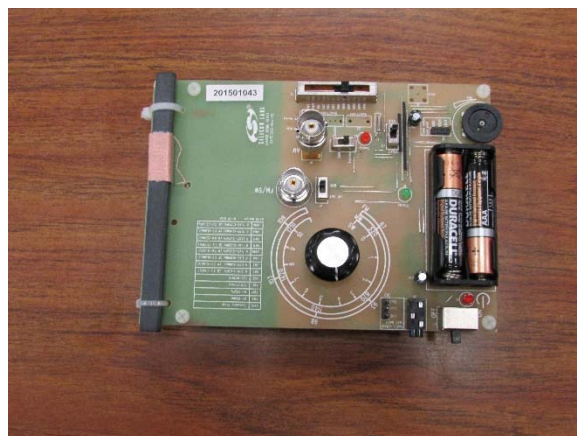
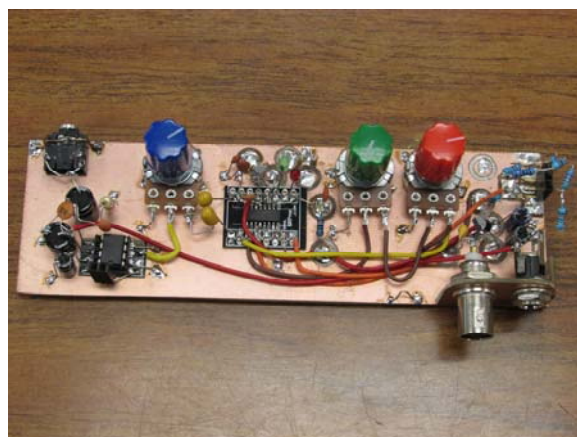
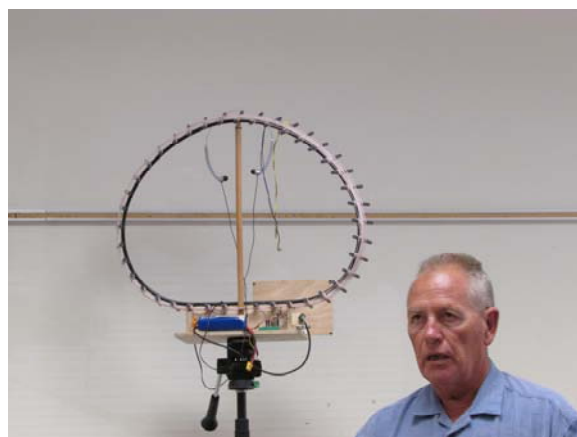


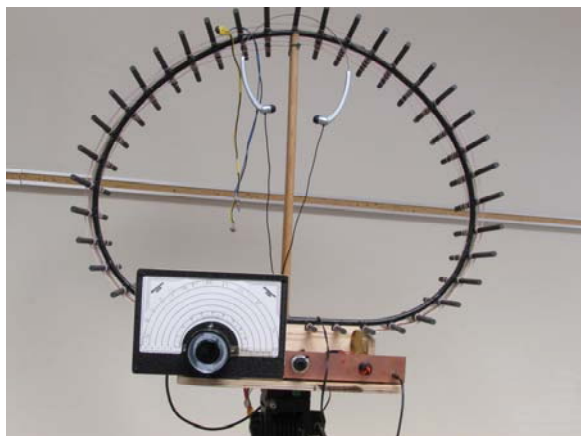
Show & Tell

Craig Johnson, AA0ZZ, brought in the latest design on the AM transmitter he has been working on. He also mentioned that he has developed a PCB case for his Elmer 101 course.

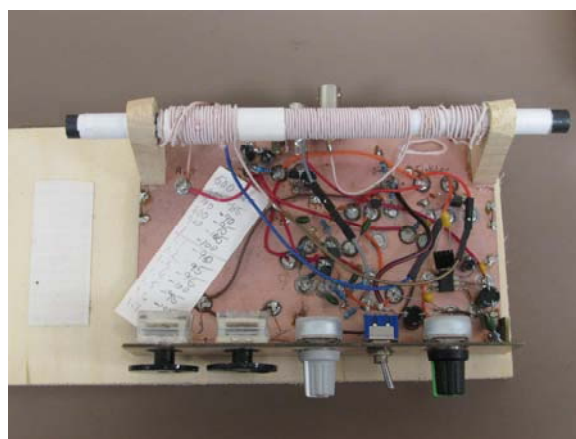


Mike Burk, KD0JXE, brought in his latest AM receiver he has been working on which is a type of regenerative. He also brought in a development board built around the SI4836 IC which covers a wide range of frequencies. Mike also told us a bit about the Radio Board contest.





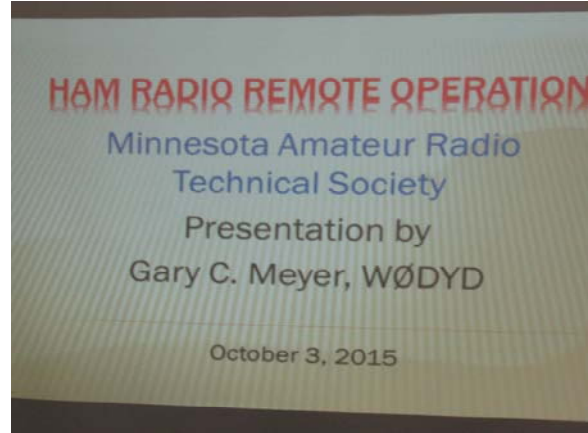
Craig Siegenthaler, W7BGO, brought in a passive loop antenna he built from fiberglass he got from Menards. This covers the broadcast band, 510 – 1800 KHz. Craig explained about the directionality of the device. He used #22 silver plated wire for the coil. Additionally, he showed us a low impedance feed for use with a communication receiver. Craig also showed us a power pack he fashioned from a power tool battery. He rebuilt it using NiCad batteries which he favors for this particular application over NiMh.



September Presentation

Gary Meyer, W0DYD, gave us an excellent presentation on remote station control techniques. He showed us four possible options: 1) Black box to the remote rig over Ethernet. 2) Phone line directly into the ham shack. 3) Kenwood software control via VNC. 4) The remote feature implemented with Ham Radio Deluxe.

Great presentation!!



Respectfully submitted,
Steve, NW0C

Club Officers:

President: Chuck Stroud/KA8HDE
Vice Pres: Russ Ramirez/K0WFS
Secretary: Steve Ulrich/NW0C
Treasurer: Paul Bushouse/N0TYE
At Large: Craig Johnson/AA0ZZ

ka8hde79@gmail.com
russ.ramirez@gmail.com
ulrichs@comcast.net
p-bushouse@bethel.edu
aa0zz@cbjohn.com